

# National Republican.

WASHINGTON, D. C. JUNE, 1861.  
OFFICE OF THE "NATIONAL REPUBLICAN."  
W. J. MURTAGH, Editor and Proprietor.  
"We will endeavor to sustain, protect, and defend the Constitution, and to promote the welfare of the country." — "All contributions, whether in money or publications, will be welcome." — "Advertisers will be allowed to indicate their names, and the amount of their contributions, which we consider a just recompence for their services."

Proprietor, Wm. J. Murtagh, Washington, D. C.

## The Death of Charles Dickens.

The cable brings us intelligence that Charles Dickens is dead. That series of wonderful and delightful histories of imagination which for the sake of a century have pleased the fancy, tickled the heart, and melted the heart of every reader in England, have come to an end. The possibility of a twin to Little Nell or of a counterpart of Pickwick is blotted out forever. The loss to humanity is positive and irreparable; for a creator has perished, and with his death vanishes the hope of an addition to a delightful circle of ideal characters that present themselves to our thoughts, as real almost as the breathing world. His place is fixed with Goldsmith and Scott.

Mr. Dickens was born at Portsmouth, February 7, 1812, and so had not reached three score years. His father was a reporter for the London press, and Dickens, worn out with the drudgery of the profession of law, took naturally to his father's vocation. He entered journalism as a reporter for the "Press," soon afterwards placed high celebrity in a fourth estate by a series of sketches of London life published in the evening edition of the "Morning Chronicle." The name of "Boz" attached to these sketches afterwards attained a world-wide fame. In 1837 he completed and published entire the "Pickwick Papers." "Oliver Twist," which first appeared in "Bentley's Miscellany," of which Dickens was editor, was published in 1838.

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In 1860 Mr. Dickens assumed the editorial charge of the "London Daily News," a liberal newspaper, but did not remain long at that post. In 1850 he took charge of "Household Words," a weekly periodical, which he managed for many years, and with much success. Want of "generosity of temper induced, in 1858, an amicable separation from his wife. Of late years his readings of his own works have delighted the English speaking world. On a professional visit to this country in connection with his readings, he saw enough to convince him that on his former tour he had very much misunderstood the American people. He frankly avowed his mistake, and our people wiped out all their old scores against him.

Apart from his genius there was much to admire in his lucid hatred of anything which savored of coarse, brutalized, and unfeeling. A man in principle his judgment told him a republican, in position, and in all England he saw no man of whom he did not feel himself the peer. He preserved to the last hours of his life his social connection with the press-world, contributed largely to its character, took part in its social gatherings, and gave a helping hand to many young wasters, almost lost in the Bohemia of newspaperdom. His memory glows softened by a thousand and kind, "time, and the sun of yesterday, as it followed" — "the sun from the east to the west, saw a shade of "new" blood with the light of myriad homes — "See Measay as on the Sacramento — which his genius had instructed and amused, when the word cause that Charles Dickens is dead.

**NATIONAL CAPITAL LIFE INSURANCE.** The following appears in the "Journalism Monitor," of New York, one of the leading journals in America, to which we desire to add our hearty congratulations. We trust the company to all our readers. As citizens of Washington, we are directly interested in the success of the "National Capital," for it is true that we are sending large amounts of money away, in form of premium for life insurance for investment elsewhere, which, if retained in the District and properly invested here, as it might be, would benefit all classes of our community. Let us try the principle of patronizing and encouraging home enterprise, and see what the result will be.

The National Capital Life Insurance Company of Washington, D. C., has recently made some important changes in its organization. The officers chosen directors and officers: M. G. Emery, Lewis Clapp, Alexander E. Shepherd, George H. Wilson, Nicholas Acker, George H. Plant, J. A. Huff, Z. Jones, Dr. F. Howard, Thomas M. Plovers, J. M. Stewart, G. Patterson, John Purdy, W. S. Vining, H. G. Wilson, secretary, T. B. Patterson; general agent, W. M. Tilton.

This was the first institution of the kind established by Congress. Its home office is situated at the city of Washington—the capital of the nation. We believe it to be a truly national institution, and should it become successful, it will do much to materially advance the welfare of its future career. In their selection of a general agent, also, they have been favored. Mr. Tilton is a gentleman of great ability and experience. We attach to him the highest confidence. His offices are in the basement of the U. S. Post Office, in the corner of 11th and F streets, opposite the Patent Office.

**TRY IT.**

The original coldest, and best Arctic Soda Water

in the city.

J. R. MAJOR'S,

CORNER SEVENTH AND H STREETS.

— BATHYMETRIC CHLORATED ICE CREAM AND VERY WATERY DRINKS.

TRY IT.

The citizens of the District are respectfully informed that

ROBERT FULTON & CO.,

314 NINTH STREET,

Baltimore, have issued a new set of

postage stamps.

These stamps have been photographed, and, with the exception of the listed ones, peculiar to the genuine stamps, have been sufficiently well executed to render them a dangerous imitation.

To what extent these stamps have been issued is not yet known. Each six-penny stamp represents tax to the amount of \$1.00, while the four-penny stamp is worth \$0.10. The genuine stamps are slightly larger than the forged ones, and are of a purplish grey color. The forged ones are drawn across the face of the genuine stamps, and are faint light green in color, although, while the genuine counterfeits are very poorly executed in gamboles.

Dealers in tokens who do not wish to deal in forged goods had better inspect the stamps on the market, and plug tobacco before purchasing the same.

The Great Medical Discovery at Gettysburg.

Great or remarkable events seem to occur around the little town of Gettysburg, Adams County, Pennsylvania. But a few years ago, the medical intelligence was focused over the telegraphic wires that the question of the existence of the nation and the cause of free government had been submitted to the arbitrament of the sword at the previously almost unquenched fire. To-day we are gratified by the announcement of a momentous medical discovery at the same locality, started, we say, by the reported coming birth-place of events so diametrically opposite in character that they cannot be used in the mind without suggesting moral and philosophical speculations. We, of course, refer to the alleged discovery of the solvent of calculus in the waters of the Gettysburg spring.

The evidence multiplies that such a discovery has been made in the waters of the spring. Whether this fluid will prove as entirely satisfactory as could be desired by the medical profession remains to be proven, and probably will not be ascertained till physicians come to know more about the use of medical waters than they do at present. It is confidently claimed by those who ought to know that the testimony submitted leaves no little room for doubt, so long sought and often reported to have been found, in other times and countries, had undoubtedly been obtained on this interesting spot of our earth.

The possibility of a twin to Little Neil or of a counterpart of Pickwick is blotted out forever. The loss to humanity is positive and irreparable; for a creator has perished, and with his death vanishes the hope of an addition to a delightful circle of ideal characters that present themselves to our thoughts, as real almost as the breathing world. His place is fixed with Goldsmith and Scott.

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